(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) It is not possible to indicate any definite time frame for such a raising.

Exitpolicy for Officers of armed Forces

772. SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY:

SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Ministry is working out on Exit Policy for the officers of the Army, Air Force and Navy to bring down the average age of commanding officers and brigade commands;

(b) if so, would it be on the lines of the VRS offered in the PSUs;

(c) whether the proposed exercise is a part of the cadre review or cadre restructuring to improve the functional command; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) to (d) No proposal for introduction of an exit policy for the officers of the Army, Air Force and Navy is under the consideration of the Government, presently.

Strengthening the LoC

773. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether any study has been made to find out that instead of mobilization of Defence Forces from our Borders, involving a maintenance expenditure of 7,000 crores wheather the desired purpose would have been served by only strengthening the LoC, which would have involved much less mobilization and appreciably less maintenance expenditure; and

(b) if so, what is the details thereto?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) and (b) The objectives achieved from the mobilization of the Armed Forces along the International Border, and the Line of Control with Pakistan, could not have been possible by restricting our mobilization only to strengthening the Line of Control.